



**Frederick County
Government
Frederick, Maryland**

News Release

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YOUNG CLARIFIES MEDIA REPORT ON BUDGET REDUCTIONS

FREDERICK, MD – President Blaine Young of the Frederick Board of County Commissioners today clarified information published in a media report today.

He said, “On behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, we would like to state that we are not asking all Frederick County Government divisions to reduce their budgets by up to 30 percent.

“Results from a study of grant-funded programs presented in open session to the board on September 7, 2011, found that the county was providing over \$6 million of non-required funding to various grant programs. When we looked more closely, we found that the county’s match to the TransIT Services paratransit program was funded significantly over what was required.

“Recently, TransIT presented to the board solutions to reduce county funds to the program. We directed TransIT to take to public hearing for consideration the first modest fare increase in 10 years due to the rising costs of fuel, as well as any other service reductions. TransIT also recommended ways to increase revenue through advertising on the buses and through other means, and we commend them for these innovative ideas.

“Due to my personal business situation, I always remove myself from any vote or discussion regarding TransIT, but I feel it is important to make this statement today from the overall board’s perspective.

“Let me also clarify that on behalf of the taxpayers of Frederick County, this board has asked county directors to continually review their operating budgets with an eye toward cost savings through consolidations, identifying cooperative programs with other government agencies and outsourcing county functions based on attrition. We fully recognize that county employees are doing more with fewer resources and appreciate any feedback from them or our directors on how to maintain levels of citizen services while at the same time making necessary adjustments due to the difficult economic time in which we live.”

For more information, citizens may contact President Young at 301-600-2336 or via e-mail at byoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov.

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